Bradford and Melksham Rural District Council

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year 1957

MASSEY, TROWBRIDGE

Bradford and Melksham Rural District Council

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To the Chairman and Members of the

BRADFORD AND MELKSHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1957, based on Ministry of Health Circular 1/58.

The District has remained free from serious epidemics throughout the year and the customary standard of good health which this district enjoys has again been maintained.

There was an epidemic of Asian influenza in the autumn. On the other hand, no cases of poliomyelitis were reported.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and all members of the Council and the Public Health Committee and my colleagues for their help and kindness to me during the year, also Mr. Noble for his co-operation and Mrs. Lewinski for clerical and other assistance so ably and willingly given.

Yours faithfully,

R. BRUCE KILLOH,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health :

R. BRUCE KILLOH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., who is also Medical Officer of Health to Melksham Urban District.

Senior Public Health Inspector :

W. A. NOBLE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

D. L. EVANS, M.A.P.H.I.

Offices :

The office of the Medical Officer of Health is 1, King Street, Melksham. Tel. Melksham 2307.

The office of the Senior Public Health Inspector is in Abbey House, Bradford on Avon. Tel. Bradford on Avon 2174.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the District (Acres)	26,868
Number of Parishes	13
Estimated Population (including Service Personnel) ...	12,990
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,380
Rateable Value	£98,565
Sum represented by a penny rate	£410

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

The following statistics have been compiled from information received from the Registrar General :—

Births

Live Births

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	68	82	150
Illegitimate	4	4	8
Total number of live births ...	72	86	158

Birth Rate for the District (i.e., per 1,000 population)	13·61
Comparative figure for England & Wales	16·1

Still Births

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total number of still births ...	2	2	4

Still Birth Rate for the District per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	24·69
Comparative figure for England & Wales	22·4

Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
Number of Deaths in the Area ...	73	81	154

Local Death Rate (i.e., per 1,000 population) ... 9·36

Comparative figure for England & Wales ... ... 11·5

Infant Mortality

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	—	3
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Total number of deaths ...	4	—	4

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	—	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total number of deaths ...	3	—	3

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births ... ... 25·32

Comparative figure for England & Wales ... 23·0

Causes of Deaths

The causes of deaths, classified according to the Registrar General's system, are given in the following table :—

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	2	—	2
(other)	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic disease ...	2	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm (stomach) ...	1	1	2
(lung bronchus)	2	1	3
(breast) ...	—	5	5
(uterus) ...	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	6	14
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	6	16	22
Coronary disease, Angina	16	8	24
Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	1	3
Other heart disease	14	27	41
Other circulatory disease	1	2	3
Influenza	1	—	1
Pneumonia	4	1	5
Bronchitis	2	2	4
Other diseases of the respiratory system	—	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	6	7	13
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
All other accidents	1	—	1
Suicide	1	—	1
Homicide and Operations of War ...	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	73	81	154

Age and Sex Incidence of Heart and Arterial Disease

Under 30		Under 40		Under 50		Under 60		Under 70		Under 80		Under 90		Over 90	
M.	F	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
—	—	1	—	1	—	4	3	11	7	12	24	9	17	1	3

This table has been prepared from data obtained from local sources :—

Age and Sex Incidence of Deaths from Cancer

Location of Cancer	Under 30		Under 40		Under 50		Under 60		Under 70		Under 80		Under 90	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cancer of Bowel	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of Breast	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—
Cancer of Lung	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—
Cancer of Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Alimentary (other than above)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Genital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reproductory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	1	3	2

OUTLINE OF THE HEALTH SERVICES OPERATING IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory, Manor Hospital, Bath, undertakes all necessary bacteriological and pathological examinations in the District.

This laboratory with its skilled staff provides a most valuable service with regard to the examination of drinking water, food and milk samples, throat swabs, etc., and their willing co-operation and expert advice is much appreciated.

Hospital Facilities

The South-Western Regional Hospital Board is responsible for hospital facilities in this district.

The two hospitals in the area are a general hospital in Melksham, and a hospital for the chronic sick at Semington. Other general hospitals are situated in Devizes and Trowbridge, with larger ones in Bath and Bristol.

The nearest hospital for the treatment of common infectious disease is the Isolation Hospital at Trowbridge, while cases of Poliomyelitis are generally treated in Bath Isolation Hospital. The nearest Smallpox Hospital is at Bristol.

County Health Facilities

The following health services operating in the district are provided by the County Health Committee :—

- Care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children..
- Domiciliary Midwifery.
- Health Visiting.
- Home Nursing.
- Arrangements for vaccination and immunization.
- Ambulances and ambulance cars.
- Domestic Helps.
- Arrangements under Part III of the National Health Service Act for the prevention of illness; care and after-care; and health education.
- Mental Health Service.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Comparison with Previous Years

Disease	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Scarlet Fever	12	19	3	4	6	2
Whooping Cough	32	27	26	40	24	52
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic ...	1	3	2	—	1	—
Non-paralytic	—	3	—	1	—	—
Measles	9	267	1	183	21	126
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	8	23	4	5	3	3
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	—	2
Erysipelas	2	2	2	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	1	—	—	—	—
Salmonellosis	—	—	3	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	1	—
Tuberculosis	9	11	4	6	2	14

Number of Cases and Admissions to Hospital

Disease	Number of Cases	Admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	2	—
Whooping Cough	52	—
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic ...	—	—
Non-paralytic	—	—
Measles	126	1
Diphtheria	—	—
Pneumonia	3	1
Dysentery	2	—
Erysipelas	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—
Salmonellosis	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—
Tuberculosis	14	3

The distribution of cases according to age and sex are shown in the following tables.

ANALYSIS UNDER AGE GROUPS

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis		Measles		Diphtheria	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	4	—	—
1-2 years	—	—	7	2	—	—	8	14	—	—
3-4 years	—	—	8	3	—	—	17	6	—	—
5-9 years	1	1	10	15	—	—	39	29	—	—
10-14 years	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	4	—	—
15-24 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
25 and over	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
Not Known	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1	1	27	25	—	—	68	58	—	—

Age Groups	Pneumonia		Dysentery		Erysipelas		Puerperal Pyrexia		Tuberculosis	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-14 years	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
15-44 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2
45-64 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not Known	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	5

Distribution in Parishes

Parishes	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Poliomyelitis		Measles	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Diphtheria	Meningo-coccal Infection	Salmon-ellosis	Tuber-culosis	Puerperal Pyrexia
			Paralytic	Non-Paralytic									
Atworth	—	9	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Broughton Gifford	—	7	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hilperton	—	2	—	—	13	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—
Holt	—	5	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Limpley Stoke	—	2	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Melksham Without	—	5	—	—	17	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Monkton Farleigh	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Semington	—	7	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Wraxall	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Staverton	—	3	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Westwood	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Wingfield	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Winsley	1	7	—	—	35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	52	—	—	126	3	2	—	—	—	—	14	—

Poliomyelitis

No cases of poliomyelitis were reported.

Tuberculosis

New Cases

Year				No. of cases
1952	...	...	...	9
1953	...	...	...	11
1954	...	...	...	4
1955	...	...	...	6
1956	...	...	...	2
1957	...	...	...	14

Distribution of new cases according to age, sex, and localisation of disease, is as follows :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths	
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 Years	—	—	1	—	—	—
6-15 ,,	1	3	—	—	—	—
16-25 ,,	1	—	—	—	—	—
26-35 ,,	2	2	—	—	—	—
36-45 ,,	3	—	—	—	1	—
46-55 ,,	1	—	—	—	—	—
56-65 ,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	1	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	5	1	—	2	—

From the above table it will be seen that 14 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1957. Two deaths from tuberculosis were recorded.

Re-housing of Tuberculosis Patients

Cases are referred from time to time by the Chest Physician for consideration for re-housing. These cases are classified as follows :—

Certificate No. 1. Sputum-positive cases where re-housing is considered urgent for the prevention of infection.

Certificate No. 2. Where better housing would be desirable in order to improve and maintain the patient's health.

Certificate No. 3. Where improved housing would be beneficial but is not an urgent matter.

None of the above certificates was received during the year.

Mass Radiography

No visits were paid by the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Diphtheria immunisation is carried out systematically throughout the district by General Practitioners and County Medical Officers, in homes and schools.

Immunisation Statistics, 1957

Age Group		Under 1	1	2-4	5–9	10–14	Total under 15
Primary imms. completed during 1957	Dip.	78	13	8	7	—	106
	Wh/c	97	12	6	4	—	119
Reinf. injs. administered during 1957	Dip.	—	—	9	53	1	63
	Wh/c	—	—	6	2	1	9
Total immunised child population at 31st Dec., 1957	Pre 1/1/53	—	—	—	191	519	710
	Post 1/1/53	18	78	339	553	255	1243

Compared with 1956, the number of primary immunisations against diphtheria fell from 142 to 106. The number of reinforcing injections administered fell from 135 to 63. The total immunised child population at the end of the year was 1243 compared with 1363. The number of primary whooping cough immunisations rose from 93 to 119 and reinforcing from 4 to 9.

Smallpox Vaccination

Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during 1957 :—

Age Group	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total
Vaccinations	52	5	4	10	16	87
Re-vaccinations	—	—	3	9	17	29

Approximately the same number of primary vaccinations were undertaken as in the previous year, while the number of re-vaccinations rose from 24 to 29.

Vaccination is performed under the National Health Service by General Practitioners. Emergency clinics can be operated in the event of an outbreak of smallpox in County Health Clinics at Salisbury and Swindon. Vaccination propaganda is undertaken by the County Health Authority.

It would continue to appear that too few babies are being vaccinated at the present time, and in sharp contrast to diphtheria immunisation, which is relatively popular, vaccination in infancy is in my experience inclined to be viewed with relative indifference at the present time. Everything possible, therefore, requires to be done toward stimulating public opinion in favour of vaccination and impressing on them the constant danger of smallpox outbreaks in a poorly protected community.

Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning were reported.

National Assistance Act, 1948

Section 47 : Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of care and attention

Happily, it was not found necessary to obtain compulsory removal of any persons against their will from their homes.

This latter step is one that should only be considered after all the assistance that can be given by Home Helps, District Nurses, National Assistance Officers and Welfare Officers, etc., has failed to provide the care and attention needed, and it is felt that there is need for more co-ordination of these services which are available to assist the aged and infirm.

REPORT

OF THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have pleasure in presenting my tenth Annual Report to this Council.

The year 1957 has been one of steady progress with emphasis on the implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations and the Council's slum clearance programme. Meat inspection continues to take up a great deal of time including every Sunday and Bank Holiday.

May I mention my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Council and Committees for their guidance, to Dr. Killoh for his co-operation and to Mr. Evans and Miss Pile for their assistance and attention to detail. The Rodent Operator and the eight members of the Refuse Collection and Disposal Staff have again worked admirably and have rendered good service to the public.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. NOBLE,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

STAFF

Additional Public Health Inspector	Mr. D. L. Evans (from 20th May, 1957)
Clerk/Typist	Miss V. A. Pile (from 21st January, 1957)
Rodent Operator	Mr. A. H. Hart (part-time)
Refuse Collection	Mr. J. H. Goodenough (Foreman/Driver) Mr. H. Genders (Driver) Mr. P. Sutherland (Loader/Relief Driver) Mr. R. C. Trott Mr. P. Tunstall Mr. R. G. Howe
Tip Operators	Mr. P. Sawyer Mr. G. Humphries (from 14th Jan., 1957)

MEAT AND FOODS

	Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Bakehouses	2	18	1	—
Slaughterhouses	2	500	—	—
Butchers' Shops	4	8	1	2
Catering Establishments ...	26	35	5	6
Food Shops	41	97	23	6
Schools	16	13	—	—
Licensed Premises ...	28	25	1	—
Licensed Slaughtermen ...	6	—	—	—
Licensed Game Premises ...	1	6	1	1

Note—It will be noticed throughout this report that, on occasion, more notices are shown as "complied with" than "served." This is explained by work, requested in 1956, being completed in 1957.

The two private slaughterhouses have continued in operation during the year (animals slaughtered and condemnation figures are shown in Appendix "A").

Both slaughterhouses in the district have a high standard of construction and the methods of working are very satisfactory.

To obtain 100% inspection, considerable overtime is worked, including every Sunday and Bank Holiday. Ante-mortem inspection is not possible. No horses have been slaughtered during the year.

During April and May, whilst we were without the services of an Additional Public Health Inspector, a neighbouring Rural District Council permitted one of their Public Health Inspectors to give us assistance on meat inspection work. This action was greatly appreciated and is an example of the flexibility and good will in Local Government.

A special report was made to the Public Health Committee in November, 1957, and the progress of work under the Food Hygiene Regulations was detailed. The Committee agreed that I should continue to proceed with informal approaches to the occupiers of food premises.

ICE CREAM

	Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Retailers	23	260	—	—
Manufacturers	—	—	—	—

Our sampling record this year showed a great improvement, but reports from other districts indicated that vigilance is still essential.

Total Number of Samples 205

PERCENTAGE OF SAMPLES

Grade I	Grade I or II	Grade III	Grade IV
93%	99·5%	0·5%	—

The Public Health Laboratory Service suggests that 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade I, 80% into Grade I or II, no more than 20% into Grade III and none into Grade IV.

MILK AND DAIRIES

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

	Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Dairies	1	352	2	2
Distributors	21			
Producer/Retailers ...	9			

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS

"Tuberculin Tested" Dealers' Licences	11
"Pasteurised" Dealers' Licences	10
Supplementary "Tuberculin Tested" Licences ...	14
Supplementary "Pasteurised" Licences	12

Set out below are the sample results of "designated" milk.

Number of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk Samples ...	165
Number of Satisfactory "Tuberculin Tested" Milk Samples	127
Number of "Pasteurised" Milk Samples	109
Number of Satisfactory "Pasteurised" Milk Samples ...	107
Number of "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)" Milk Samples	86
Number of Satisfactory "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)" Milk Samples	82
Number of Biological Samples for Tubercle Bacillus and Brucella Abortus	6
Number of Satisfactory Biological Samples	5

We have been able to maintain our augmented sampling routine to cover all Distributors and Producer/Retailers. Sample failures are investigated and further check samples obtained.

Two Distributors showed an unsatisfactory sampling record and the Public Health Committee has given instructions that, as the licences are renewed, the Distributors are to be informed that the Council are not satisfied and they must indicate what steps are being taken to obtain an improvement.

The number of biological samples for Tubercle Bacillus shows a reduction. The Bath Public Health Laboratory feel obliged to restrict the routine use of this test to samples of raw, undesignated milk. This Rural District now lies in an area within which only Tuberculin Tested or other designated milk may be sold. Biological testing is still considered if special circumstances require it, as when investigating milk supplies to households in which cases of bovine tuberculosis have occurred. During 1958 the laboratory hope to make a sample survey of raw Tuberculin Tested milk in this area for evidence of brucellosis and Q fever infection. In the course of this, observations will also be made for the presence of tuberculous infection in the milk.

WATER

Number of Public Water Supplies in the District ...	12
Number of Bacteriological Samples obtained during 1957	63
Number of Samples taken for chemical analysis during 1957	—

Appendix "B" of this Report sets out the sample results for the year.

I am not in a position to give, with any degree of accuracy, the number of houses and the population in each Parish supplied from public water mains direct to houses, or by means of standpipes. None of the water supplies appear to be liable to plumbosolvent action.

It will be noticed that the number of public supplies is being reduced; this is due to the Council's policy which results in easier control by the Surveyor of the Council.

FACTORIES

	Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Factories with power ...	27	34	5	3
Factories without power ...	2	1	1	—
Outworkers	29	1	—	—

The requirements of the Factories Act, 1937, appear to be complied with and full details, as required by the Ministry, are contained in Appendix " C."

SHOPS

	Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Shops	41	80	—	—

The requirements of the Shops Act are fulfilled and conditions are generally satisfactory.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

	Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Site Licences	9	14	1	—
Individual Licences ...	—			
Licences Refused ...	—			

It is again pleasing to report that no complaints have been received during the year regarding gipsies at Norrington Common.

All the sites, licensed by the Council, have been inspected to ensure compliance with the licence conditions.

RODENT CONTROL

Details, in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, are given in Appendix " D."

The arrangement of a part-time Rodent Operator has proved satisfactory.

The three public sewerage systems have been test baited. Two systems showed " no takes." The third system showed one complete take of bait and a small poison treatment was made at three manholes.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The R.A.F. Station, Melksham Without, renewed their contract with the Council for refuse collection and the work has proceeded smoothly.

The Council's two diesel ten cubic yard vehicles — one Bedford and one Ford — have given good service.

A weekly collection throughout the district is maintained with a limited service for some trade refuse.

SALVAGE

During the year, the following items of salvage have been sold :—

	Weight				Approx. Value		
	tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Rags	1	3	2	0	19	17	6
Waste Paper	33	9	2	0	236	11	6
Scrap Metal	5	1	3	12	25	3	11
				TOTAL ...	£281	12	11

With some difficulty, it has been possible to find a market for our salvaged paper and steps have been taken in an endeavour to increase our collection of scrap metal and rags for which there is a ready market.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

This service, brought into operation in 1948, has been utilised to clear 411 cesspool and septic tanks during 1957.

The Contractors, employed by the Council, visit the district every three months. In January the Contractors had to increase their price, but the extra charge was kept to a minimum for the benefit of the householder utilising this Service.

The growth of the service can be judged by the following figures :—

1948	...	...	75 clearances
1949	...	...	98 clearances
1950	...	...	120 clearances
1951	...	...	175 clearances
1952	...	...	234 clearances
1953	...	...	290 clearances
1954	...	...	333 clearances
1955	...	...	367 clearances
1956	...	...	376 clearances
1957	...	...	411 clearances

HOUSING

Number of houses inspected and recorded	24
Number of houses suitable for action under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	18
Number of houses suitable for action under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957	—
Number of Demolition Orders issued	12
Number of Closing Orders issued	1
Number of undertakings accepted under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	10
Number of notices under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957	—

In accordance with the Council's policy, 18 cottages have been formally presented to the Housing Committee as suitable for action under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957, and 6 as suitable for a clearance area. Every endeavour is made to persuade owners to undertake reconditioning schemes and to take advantage of Improvement Grants.

During the year, two cottages were demolished, one reconditioned and three converted into a bungalow as a result of formal and informal action commenced by the Council during 1955 and 1956.

Twenty-one Improvement Grants (total £6,829) have been made during 1957. The time involved on the advisory work, necessary inspections, checking plans and specifications, is well spent on this constructive aspect of our duties.

Three applications have been made to the Council for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Number of inspections	263
Number of informal notices served	28
Number of statutory notices served	1
Number of informal notices complied with	19
Number of statutory notices complied with	1

Following a statutory notice and court procedure reported last year in connection with the drainage from a piggery, it can now be reported that a new sewage disposal plant is in the course of erection, but there have been long delays.

RIVERS, STREAMS AND SEWERAGE

Informal action has been taken in various parts of the district to prevent pollution of streams and water courses. Sewer ditches continue to be a problem. Only three of the 13 Parishes (Winsley, Hilperton and Holt) have sewerage systems, but additional schemes are envisaged by the Surveyor to the Council.

We have co-operated with the Bristol Avon River Board in the removal and disposal of various animal carcases from the river at Limpley Stoke Weir.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public in this area. Various samples and some advisory work was undertaken for a private pool at a school.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

No formal action was found necessary during the year under the Clean Air Act, 1956.

Proprietors of various industrial premises were advised, last year, of the provisions of the Act and consultation invited with the Council's Officers and the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Number of Premises Registered	2
Number of Visits	6
Number of Samples obtained	9

Six samples of rag flock, one of woollen felt, one of feathers and one of hair were obtained. To save time and expense these samples were taken informally.

All the samples were satisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Number of Premises Licensed	2
Number of Visits	4

Before renewal of licences, the premises are visited by me and the Local Inspector of R.S.P.C.A., to whom my thanks are due for co-operation and advice.

The R.S.P.C.A. asked this Council in July to make it a condition of licence that leaflets dealing with the feeding, care and

management should be issued with each animal sold. It was felt that such a condition was undesirable but the attention of licence holders was drawn to the leaflets and voluntary co-operation encouraged.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

The Council agreed that the enforcement of this Act did not warrant a special survey of each farm and that it would suffice if the Rodent Operator made inspections and reported in the course of his routine duties. This is being done but activity has been restricted owing to Foot and Mouth Disease in the area.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

At the end of the year, we were notified that the enforcement of this Order was delegated by the County Council to the County District Councils.

Various preliminary visits were made with a view to the issue of the necessary licences but difficulties have been encountered in preparing a comprehensive list.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

I would like to make special mention of the very good service given to this Council by Dr. Mann and the Public Health Laboratory at Manor Hospital, Bath. All our milk, ice cream and water samples are given prompt attention and it is of very great assistance to have Dr. Mann's advice so readily available.

GENERAL

The following visits have been made in connection with miscellaneous items requiring attention :—

Drainage	595
Water Supply	182
Salvage	14
Miscellaneous Housing Visits and Small Dwellings Acquisition Act enquiries	508
Infectious Diseases	2
Refuse Collection and Disposal	321
Rodent Control	24

APPENDIX "A"

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	738	1383	966	47	23	—
Number inspected ...	738	1383	966	47	23	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci— Whole carcases condemned	1	11	8	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	97	473	5	1	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis & Cysticerci	13·3	35·0	1·3	2·1	4·3	—
Tuberculosis only— Whole carcases condemned	5	52	2	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	53	297	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	7·9	25·2	0·2	—	—	—
Cysticercosis— Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX "B"

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLE RESULTS, 1957

Name of Supply.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Remarks.
Avoncliff Supply	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1) U(1)	—	—	S(3)	—	—	Chlorinated supply. This supply discontinued as from Oct., 1957
Chalfield Supply	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	U(2)	—	—	Chlorinated supply. This supply discontinued as from Nov., 1957
Conkwell Supply	U(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	Warning notice fixed in January, 1949
Bath City (Combe Down) Supply	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	U(8) S(2)	S(1)	—	—	Chlorinated supply.
Holt Water Supply	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	Chlorinated supply. Purchased by Council on 26th March, 1956
Monkton Farleigh Ministry of Works Supply	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Chlorinated supply. This supply discontinued as from June, 1957

Note—S denotes satisfactory result. U denotes unsatisfactory result due to presence of faecal coli. (Number) denotes number of samples obtained during the month.

APPENDIX "B" (continued) BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLE RESULTS, 1957

Name of Supply.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Remarks.
Chippenham Water Scheme	S(1)	—	—	S(4)	—	—	S(2)	—	—	S(2)	—	—	Chlorinated supply.
Norrington Common Supply	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	This supply discontinued as from April, 1957
Turleigh Troughs Supply	U(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	Warning notice fixed in August, 1949
Trowbridge Water Board	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	S(2)	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	Chlorinated supply.
Sandridge Lane Dip Hole Supply	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	Warning notice fixed in July, 1956
Bradford Leigh Hill Dip Hole Supply	U(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Warning notice fixed in March, 1956. This supply discontinued as from April, 1957

Note—S denotes satisfactory result. U denotes unsatisfactory result due to presence of faecal coli. (Number) denotes number of samples obtained during the month.

APPENDIX "C"

FACTORIES

Inspections

	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority (non-power)	2	1	1	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (power)	27	34	5	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—

Defects

	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Drainage of Floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective ...	5	2	—	1	—
(c) Not Separate for Sexes ...	—	1	—	—	—

APPENDIX "D"

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1958

	Type of Property				
	Non-Agricultural				Agricultural
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (including business premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3) (4)	(5)
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	5	3360	310	3675	220
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	—	42	11	53	2
(b) Survey under the Act	5	193	22	220	18
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose) ...	—	17	52	69	—
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections	Not readily available				
IV. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats Major	1	1	—	2	—
Minor	4	45	5	54	6
(b) Mice Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	21	1	22	—

APPENDIX "D" (continued)

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1958

	Type of Property				
	Non-Agricultural				Agri-cultural
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (including business premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3) (4)	(5)
V. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	5	64	4	73	1
VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments	Not readily available				
VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	—	1	—	—	—
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
X. Number of "block" control schemes carried out	—	4	—	—	—